

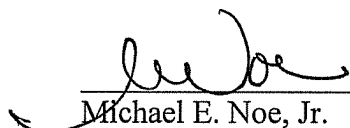
REMARKS

Applicant affirms the election of Group I (Claims 1-13) without traverse, and the cancellation of Claims 22-31 since they are directed to Group II. The title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions.

Applicant appreciates the suggestion offered by the Examiner to overcome the objections to Claims 2-7 and 10-13. Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to incorporate the language of canceled Claim 2. Applicant also has added new independent Claim 32, which combines the language of Claims 1 and 7, and new independent Claim 37, which combines the language of Claims 1 and 5. Each of these claims and their respective dependent claims (which essentially track the language of the original dependent claims) is allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time or other fees are believed to be required. However, in the event that one or more fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Deposit Account Number 50-2587**.

Respectfully submitted,



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